

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-12-5 Building Date: circa 1908

Building Name: Houser House

Location: 3507 Varnum Street, Brentwood, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

The Houser House is a 2 1/2 story frame cross-gabled dwelling; the original wood siding is covered with light yellow synthetic siding. Entrance is in the third bay of the main north facade. Centered in and dominating this facade is a two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay, surmounted by a full pediment. This pediment is lighted by an octagonal posthole window. The double hung sash windows have diamond-shape panes in the upper sash, and trim is white. Across the north facade is a one-story hip-roof porch with Tuscan posts on concrete bases.

Significance

The Houser House is one of only a half-dozen surviving examples of the Victorian cross gable form in the earliest section of Brentwood. It is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style cross-gabled house. It was built circa 1908 for the family of George Houser, who worked as a house plasterer, and later for the U.S. Treasury Department. The Houser house is a prominent landmark in the old section of the Brentwood subdivision.

Acreage: 10,000 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. PG#68-12-5

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Houser House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3507 Varum St. ☐ not for publication

city, town Brentwood ☐ vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Victoria Akca

street & number 3507 Varum St. telephone no.:

city, town Brentwood state and zip code MD 20722

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 8236

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 187

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG#68-12-5

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Houser House is a 2 1/2 story frame cross-gabled dwelling; the original wood siding is covered with light yellow synthetic siding. Entrance is in the third bay of the main north facade. Centered in and dominating this facade is a two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay, surmounted by a full pediment. This pediment is lighted by an octagonal posthole window. The double hung sash windows have diamond-shape panes in the upper sash, and trim is white. Across the north facade is a one-story hip-roof porch with Tuscan posts on concrete bases.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG#68-12-5

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1908 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Houser House is one of only a half-dozen surviving examples of the Victorian cross gable form in the earliest section of Brentwood. It is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style cross-gabled house. It was built circa 1908 for the family of George Houser, who worked as a house plasterer, and later for the U.S. Treasury Department. The Houser house is a prominent landmark in the old section of the Brentwood subdivision.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#68-12-5

[Prince George's County Deeds](#)
[Prince George's County Tax Assessments](#)
[Prince George's County Probate Records](#)
[Prince George's County Plats](#)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10,000 sq ft

(Brentwood, Block 7, lot 28)

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone Easting Northing

B

Diagram B shows three empty coordinate axes. The first axis is labeled 'Zone' and has two tick marks. The second axis is labeled 'Easting' and has four tick marks. The third axis is labeled 'Northing' and has four tick marks.

c

D 

E L L L L L

F 

G

[illegible]

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian
-------------------	--

Historic Preservation Section

organization Planning Dept. M-NCPPC

date June 1992

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

telephone (301) 952-3521

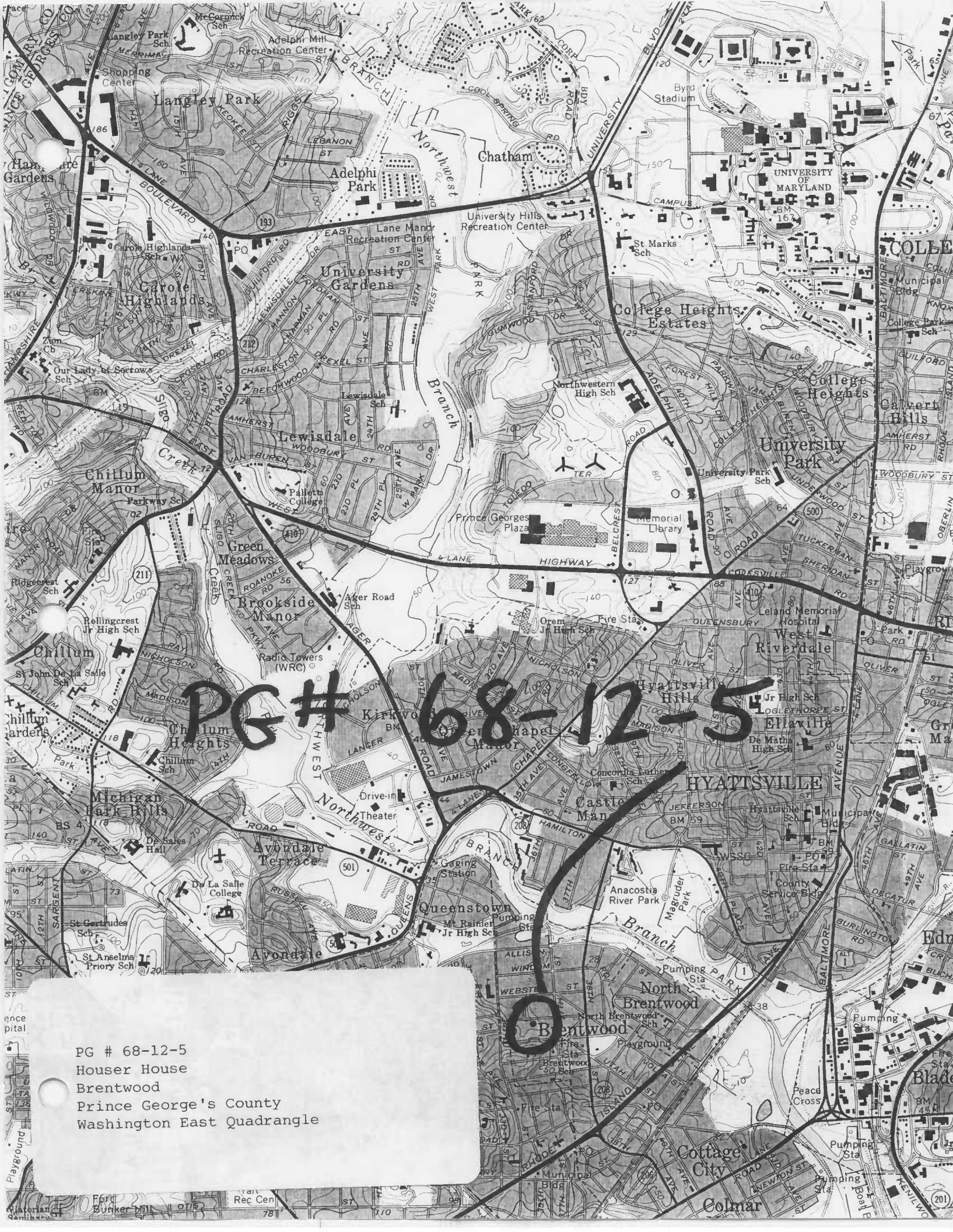
city or town Upper Marlboro

state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



PG # 68-12-5

PG # 68-12-5
Houser House
Brentwood
Prince George's County
Washington East Quadrangle



Pg #68-12-5

5

Honser House

3507 Vermont St.
Bentley, P.O. Co.

Lester H. Pearl
April 1992
North Jacade

1 of 1